which have been included in the VIIIth Schedule of the Constitution, like Hindi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) The Government have already schemes for providing financial assistance to voluntary organisations for development and propagation of all languages, which have been included in the VIIIth Schedule of the Constitution. The Government have schemes of financial assistance to non-Hindi speaking States/UTs for appointment of Hindi teachers and to Hindi speaking States for appointment of Modern Indian Languages teachers. Grants are also given to meet the expenditure on salary of Sanskrit teachers to be appointed in Secondary and Senior Secondary schools where the State Governments are not in a position to provide facilities to teach Sanskrit. In addition, in order to assist promotion and propagation of Hindi and other languages included in the VIIIth Schedule of the Constitution the government have established Institutions like Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore; Central Hindi Directorate, New Delhi; National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language, New Delhi; Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology, New Delhi; National Council for promotion of Sindhi Language, Vadodara; Kendriya Hindi Shikshan Mandal, Agra; Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi and Maharishi Sandipani Rashtriya Ved Vidya Pratishthan, Ujjain. Details of the schemes are available in the Annual Report of the Department of Education for 1996-97 laid in both Houses of Parliament and copy of which is placed in the Parliament Library and all these schemes are proposed to be continued in the Ninth Five Year Plan.

Bureaucrat Heading ASI

1152. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Archaeological Survey of India is being headed by a bureaucrat presently.

(b) if so, the details of circumstances that led to such an appointment;

(c) whether efforts, if any, have been made/initiated/contemplated to appoint a technocrat; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) The post of Director General, Archaeological Survey of India is now being held by an IAS officer;

(b) to (d) As no officer in the Archaeological Survey of India was eligible for promotion to the post of Director General, two attempts were made to fill up the post by alternative modes of recruitment through the Union Public Service Commission. However, no candidate was found suitable by the Commission. Action, as suggested by the UPSC, to amend the Recruitment Rules was also initiated but the amendments to the Recruitment Rules could not be notified as finalisation of all Recruitment Rules are under abeyance pending implementation of the 5th Pay Commission Report.

In the absence of a regular incumbent, the post of Director General was being held by Secretary (Culture) from 2.11.94 to 9.9.96. However, this arrangement started to adversely affect the functioning of the Department as well as that of the Archaeological Survey of India. Under these circumstances, the present appointment was made by the Government.